

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

1. A wood-based panel treated with a composition for reducing edge swelling, the panel having first and second major surfaces and four edge surfaces, the four edge surfaces of the panel being treated with the composition, wherein the composition comprises (a) water, (b) a butylacrylate latex, (c) a wax, (d) an oil, wherein the wax is soluble in the oil, and (e) a surfactant, wherein the surfactant comprises an organic acid salt.

2. The panel of Claim 1, wherein the composition is applied to the edges at a spread rate of about 25-50 wet pounds per Msqft of edge surface area and dried to yield a residue that substantially reduces differential edge swell.

3. The panel of Claim 1, wherein the composition comprises water in an amount from about 20 to about 60 percent by weight based on the total weight of the composition; butylacrylate latex in an amount from about 10 to about 25 percent by weight based on the total weight of the composition; wax in an amount from about 1 to about 25 percent by weight based on the total weight of the composition, oil in an amount from about 2 to about 30 percent by weight based on the total weight of the composition; and a surfactant in an amount from about 1 to about 5 percent by weight based on the total weight of the composition.

4. The panel of Claim 1, wherein the composition further comprises a second latex.